

MARVEL

5



DeMATTEIS
MESSIAS
BRABO
TARTAGLIA

SPIDER-MAN

THE LOST HUNT



THE RETURN
OF THE
**SPIDER-
ARMOR!**

PETER PARKER was bitten by a radioactive spider and gained the proportional speed, strength, and agility of a SPIDER, adhesive fingertips and toes, and the unique precognitive awareness of danger called "SPIDER-SENSE"! After the tragic death of his Uncle Ben, Peter understood that with great power there must also come great responsibility. He became the crimefighting super hero called **SPIDER-MAN**!

Years later, after an altercation with the villain the **Jackal**, Peter was cloned. At this time, Peter, believing he was the clone, left New York City and the mantle of SPIDER-MAN to **Ben Reilly**. Peter and a pregnant **Mary Jane Watson-Parker** looked to begin a new life in Portland, Oregon. Now powerless, Peter Parker learns to live his life without...

SPIDER-MAN

THE LOST HUNT

After the death of Kraven the Hunter and his son the Grim Hunter, their friend and confidant Gregor has taken up the hunt to kill the one true Spider-Man: Peter Parker!

After losing control of his mind, Peter was brought back to his senses by Mary Jane.

But Gregor isn't finished trying to destroy Spider-Man as he has arrived with some "friends"...

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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

"GREGOR
IS HERE--"

SPIDER-MAN: THE LOST HUNT CHAPTER FIVE: THE CAULDRON



--AND YOU TWO HAVE TO GO... NOW!

BUT GREGOR--

I'LL DEAL WITH MY SON.



I...I CAN'T JUST RUN. ORISHA! GREGOR'S HERE BECAUSE OF ME! HE BLAMES ME FOR SERGEI AND VLADIMIR'S DEATHS--

--AND I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO--



TO YOUR WIFE AND CHILD.

GO TO MY HOUSE. THERE'S A **SAFE ROOM** IN THE BASEMENT WHERE **MARY JANE** WILL BE PROTECTED.

I KNOW YOU WANT TO STAY, PETER--



--BUT YOU'RE NOT **SPIDER-MAN** ANYMORE.

YOU **JUST** CAME BACK TO ME...HALF-CRAZY, BRUISED, AND BLOODY. **GREGOR** DID THAT TO YOU--

--AND I'M NOT GONNA LET HIM **FINISH** THE JOB.

ONCE YOUR WIFE IS SAFE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HELP.

HOW?

WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU'LL KNOW. NOW GO--OUT THE BACK--



--BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE."



I SEE YOU'VE RECOVERED FROM OUR EARLIER ENCOUNTER. I'M NOT SURPRISED.



YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A **KNACK** FOR SURVIVAL.

I'LL GIVE YOU **ONE FINAL CHANCE** TO STOP THIS INSANITY.

AH.





...THAN HER SON?

YOU PROTECT THE SPIDER, MOTHER.

LAVISH MORE CARE AND ATTENTION ON PARKER THAN YOU EVER DID ON ME.

I ASK WHY?

THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE.



I NEVER MATTERED TO YOU!

KR

AK!



YOU WERE RELIEVED... JOYFUL... WHEN SERGEI TOOK ME AWAY!



I KNOW KRAVINOFF CORRUPTED YOUR MIND...TURNED YOU AGAINST ME, BUT EVEN SO--

--YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY BELIEVE THAT!

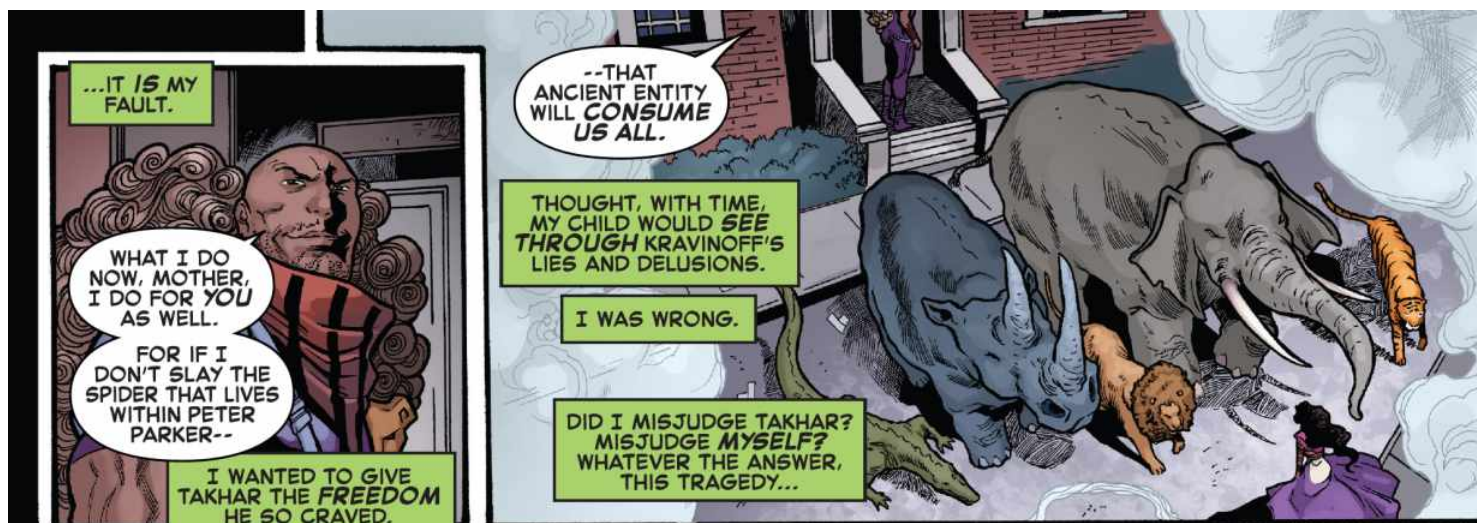
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU EVER COME FOR ME?

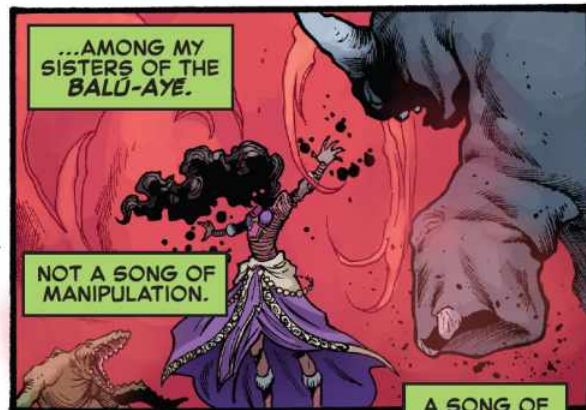
DON'T YOU REMEMBER, TAKHAR? I DID COME! BUT SERGEI--

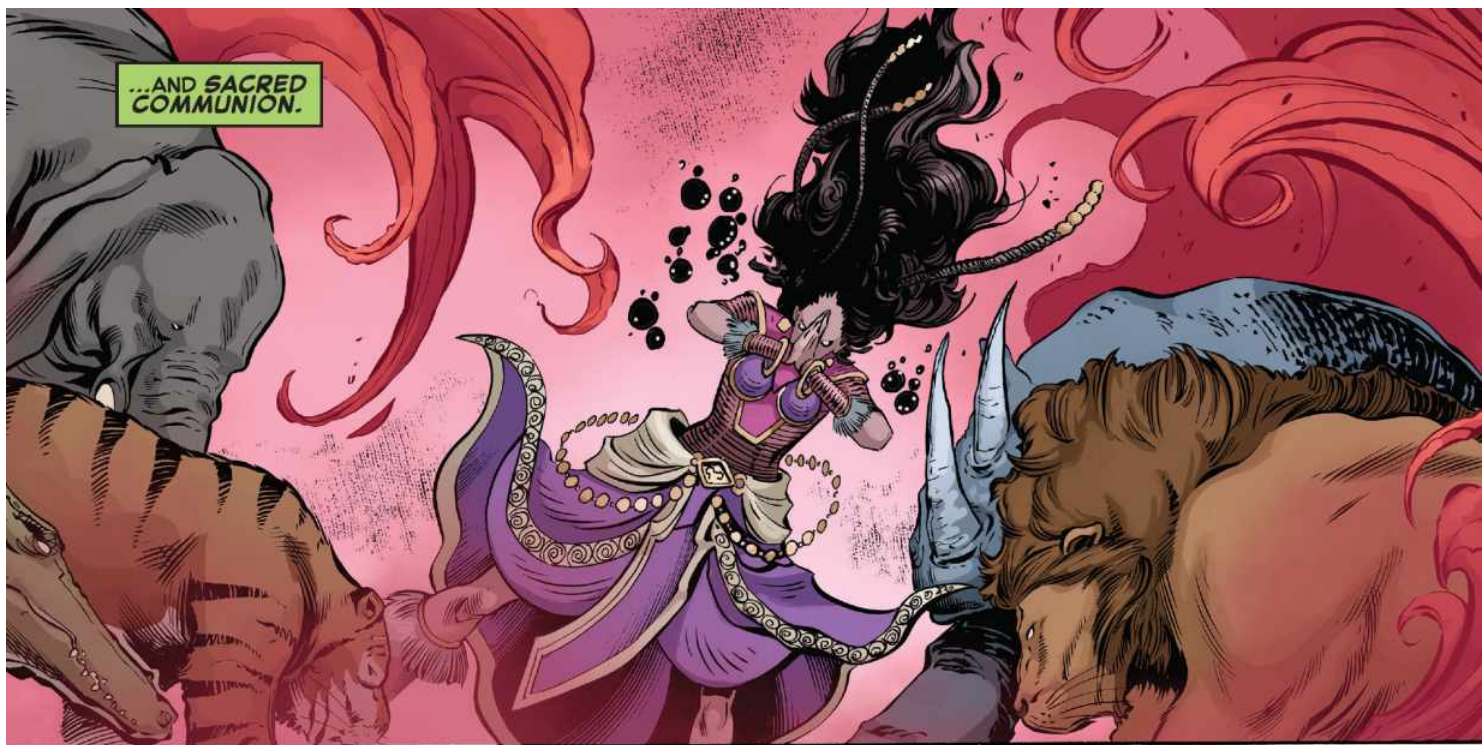
MY NAME IS NOT TAKHAR! MY NAME--

--IS GREGOR!

HE'S LOST







...AND SACRED COMMUNION.



GO NOW...
INTO THE NIGHT...
SAFE AND
PROTECTED.

RETURN TO
YOUR HABITAT
AND NONE WILL
KNOW--



--THAT
YOU WERE
EVER--



SKAWWWW



YOU
FORGOT
THE VULTURE--
DIDN'T YOU,
MOTHER?



HER CLAWS
DIPPED IN A
POTION THAT...HAD
I INCREASED THE
POTENCY...WOULD
HAVE KILLED
YOU.

BUT, JUST
THIS ONCE, I WILL
BE AS MERCIFUL
TO YOU AS YOU
WERE TO THESE
BEASTS.



"JUST THIS ONCE."

HE WANTS TO RUN, I KNOW HE DOES. BACK TO ORISHA. BACK TO THE BATTLE.

SHE SAID YOU'D BE SAFE HERE.

ALWAYS THE SACRIFICING HERO. I LOVE THAT ABOUT PETER. AND...I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT IT...

...I HATE IT TOO.

HATE THINKING ABOUT MANIACS LIKE GREGOR CONSTANTLY UPENDING OUR LIVES. WORRYING ABOUT THE DAY WHEN THEY FINALLY MAKE ME A WIDOW.

I HOPE SHE'S RIGHT.

BUT AJA'S JUST RENTING THIS PLACE.

WHAT COULD BE DOWN HERE THAT--?

WHAT IS ALL THIS?

IT'S BEEN LONELY SINCE WE CAME TO PORTLAND. A STRUGGLE TO FIND OUR FEET. BUILD A LIFE.

BUT IT'S ALSO BEEN A CHANCE FOR US TO FINALLY PUT SPIDER-MAN BEHIND US. AND I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF I'VE BEEN A COMPLETE FOOL...

THEY LOOK LIKE...WAKANDAN ARTIFACTS. TRADITIONAL CLOTHING. WEAPONS. STATUES OF THEIR GODS. AND WHAT'S THAT--

...TO BELIEVE THAT'S POSSIBLE.

--OVER THERE?

HE ASKED ORISHA HOW HE COULD HELP. "WHEN THE TIME COMES," SHE SAID, "YOU'LL KNOW."

AND WHEN HE SEES IT, GLEAMING IN THE SHADOWS-- HE UNDERSTANDS

I **BEG** HIM NOT TO PUT IT ON. TO STAY DOWN HERE WITH ME. BUT HE HAS TO DO IT. I **KNOW** HE DOES.

I HEARD YOUR CALL, MISHKIN! I'M HERE!

AND SO, I SEE--

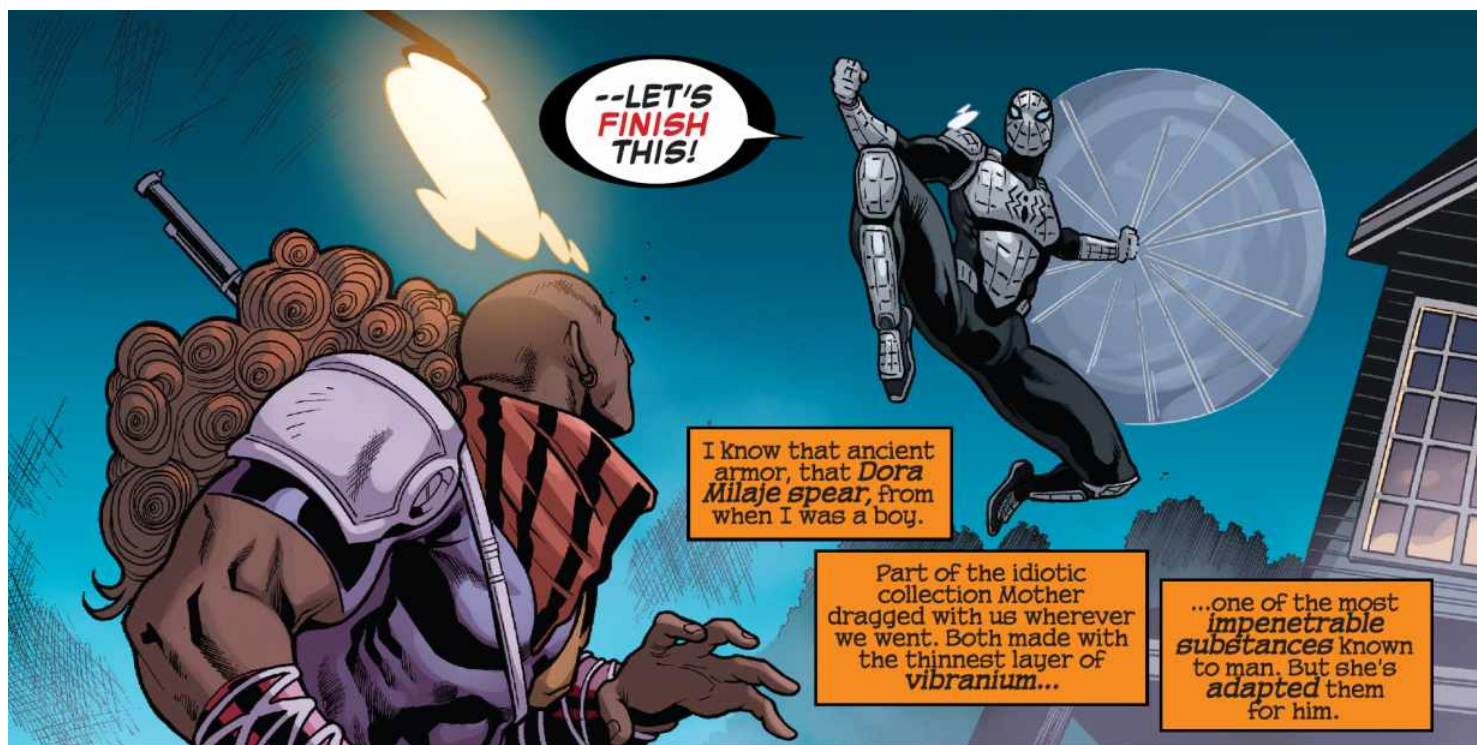
SO ALL I CAN DO IS GIVE HIM A GENTLE KISS...

--IS HE!

...AND WISH HIM WELL.

ALL RIGHT, GREGOR--





--LET'S
FINISH
THIS!

I know that ancient armor, that *Dora Milaje* spear, from when I was a boy.

Part of the idiotic collection Mother dragged with us wherever we went. Both made with the thinnest layer of **vibranium**...

...one of the most **impenetrable substances** known to man. But she's **adapted** them for him.



Damn her
Balú-Ayé
divinations!

FWAK!

She *knew* this encounter would come!



Prepared
for it!

And, again, she favors the *spider*...

...over her *own* son!



**BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!**

YOU CAN HIDE BEHIND THAT ARMOR-- BUT IT WON'T **SAVE** YOU!

FOR TONIGHT, THE HUNT THAT KRAVEN BEGAN SO LONG AGO--

--COMES TO AN **END!**

YOU WIELD
THAT WAKANDAN
STAFF WITH SOME
SKILL--

--BUT MY MOTHER'S
NOT THE ONLY
WHO'S AMASSED AN
IMPRESSIVE WEAPONS
COLLECTION!

TWAK!

THIS
BLADE, FOR
INSTANCE--

--WAS
FORGED FROM
VIBRANIUM--

SHAIKY

--AND IT
WILL SEVER
THAT STAFF...SLICE
THROUGH THAT
ARMOR--

--AND THEN
GUT YOU LIKE
A HELPLESS
FISH!

IT'S NOT
A WEAPON
THAT'S GOING TO
WIN THIS FIGHT,
GREGOR!

IT'S THE
STRENGTH THAT
COMES FROM MARY
JANE'S LOVE
FOR ME--

--AND
MINE FOR
HER!

IT'S THE
HOPE FOR
THE FUTURE
WE BOTH SHARE!
OUR CHILD'S
FUTURE!

AND I'LL
SEE YOU
DEAD--



--BEFORE
I LET YOU
TAKE THAT
AWAY!



NO,
MISHKIN.

YOU
MUST NOT
INTERFERE.



YOU *FEEL*
IT, DON'T YOU--
IN THE DEPTHS
OF YOUR WISE
AND ANCIENT
SOUL?

YOUR
MASTER HAS
A *DESTINY* TO
PLAY OUT
TONIGHT.

AS DOES
PARKER.



"AS
DO I."





DAMN YOU, SPIDER!
WHY WON'T YOU FINISH THIS?
WHY WON'T YOU **KILL** ME?!

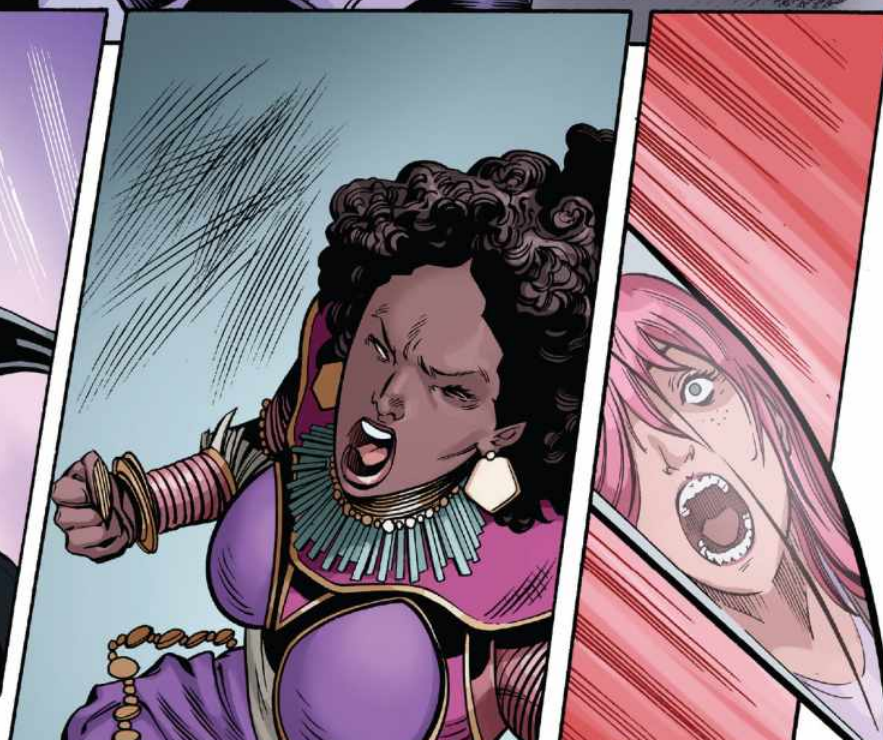
BECAUSE HE'S NOT SOME CREATURE. SOME... SPIDER-THING CREATED BY KRAVEN'S DEMENTED IMAGINATION.



HE'S JUST A MAN.
A GOOD AND DECENT MAN WHO'S RISKED HIS LIFE, AGAIN AND AGAIN, TO HELP PEOPLE HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW.

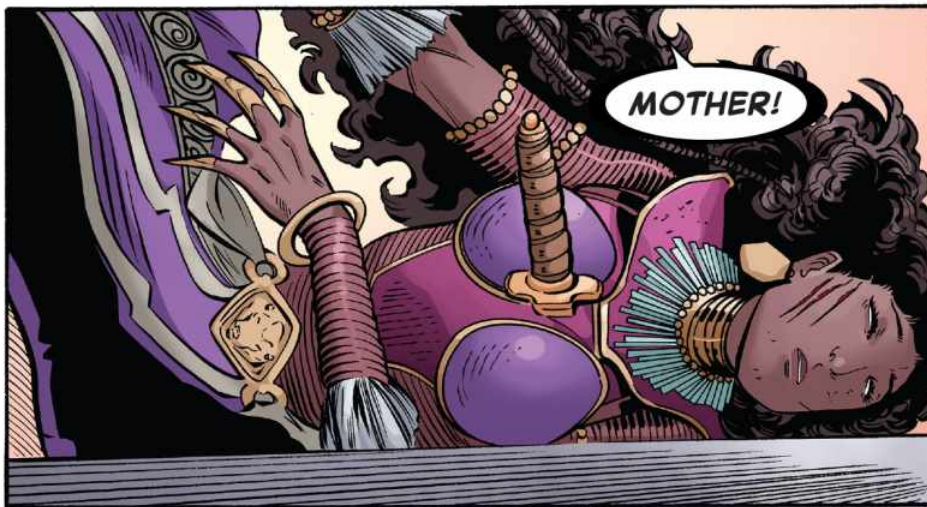
WHO, AFTER EVERY TERRIBLE THING YOU'VE DONE, WOULD RISK HIS LIFE--

--TO HELP YOU.



--DIE!





I KNOW. THIS WAS DESTINY'S WORK...NOT YOURS.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO DISPEL THE DEMONS IN YOUR HEART--

--AND BRING MY BELOVED SON--



THWAK!

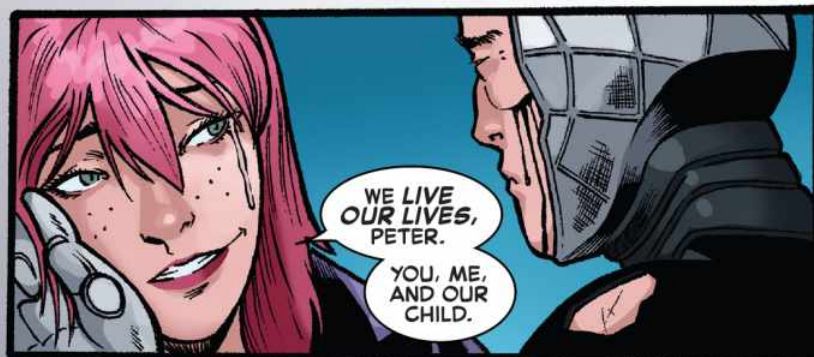
...and my wasted life.



I betrayed my mother. My heritage.

And like that tortured madman I once





AND IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, THOSE WORDS



...BECOME
OUR GUIDING
STAR.

IT TAKES TIME TO BEGIN TO
SHAKE OFF THE TRAUMA AND
TRAGEDY OF THAT AWFUL
ENCOUNTER. AND, EVEN AS WE
MOURN ORISHA'S PASSING...

...WE'RE GRATEFUL
THAT GREGOR'S
TOXIC PRESENCE IS
GONE. BUT WE CAN'T
HELP BUT WONDER:



WHAT **OTHER**
MONSTERS FROM
SPIDER-MAN'S PAST
WILL COME SLITHERING
OUT OF THE SHADOWS
TO **TERRORIZE** US?

"WE LIVE
OUR LIVES," MJ
SAID. AND SO
WE DO...

...GOING BACK TO
OUR JOBS--ME WITH MY
SCIENCE STUDENTS AT
THE COLLEGE, MARY JANE
WITH THE THEATER KIDS
AT THE HIGH SCHOOL.



HER PRODUCTION
OF *LES MISERABLES* IS
A WONDER TO BEHOLD.
I'M **SO PROUD** OF HER.
AND I KNOW THAT...



...AS LONG AS MY
WIFE IS BY MY SIDE,
I CAN FACE **ANYTHING**.
AND, WITH OUR BABY--
THIS TINY WONDER,
THIS LIVING MIRACLE--
ON THE WAY...

...I CAN'T, I **WON'T**,
SURRENDER TO THE
SHADOWS--OUT IN THE
WORLD OR IN THE
CORNERS OF MY MIND.



IF I'VE LEARNED
ANYTHING IN LIFE, IT'S
THAT EVEN IN THE
DARKEST TIMES...

...**ESPECIALLY**
IN THE DARKEST
TIMES...

LOVE



What a finale, folks! ORISHA LIVES!!!

Let's get to some letters before we wrap this one up!

I'm really enjoying **THE LOST HUNT** and have actually gone out of my way to buy physical copies at my local comic store every time it releases. I read the first issue online and promptly subscribed for the digital issues too.

I'm all about Peter and MJ facing their insecurities and past traumas and triumphing over them as a team. I live for this kind of emotional highs/lows, love, and resolution in my Spidey stories. Just inject that into my veins. It's my chicken noodle soup for the soul. It's just so, so good. And romantic.

I grew up reading Spidey in the early 2000s and really dug reading him as a married man and schoolteacher as a kid. Speaking as a deprived PeterMJ fan, if you guys decide to release more minis of them written by JMD or any writer who's a fan of them too, I will be buying. Guaranteed.

Sincerely,
Kelli

Dear Spidey-Office,

This series has me hooked. I haven't read much of DeMatteis' work on Spider-Man before, but this miniseries has me wanting to go back and see what I've been missing. But from what I've seen, most of his run on **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** isn't on Marvel Unlimited or in any TPB or Omnibus. I wonder if there are any plans to have those re-released this year, especially with how hot **THE LOST HUNT** is right now. The more of DeMatteis, the better, if you ask me. Can't wait to catch up on some classics.

CJ Gosson

Hello to all enjoyers of the "Clone Saga,"

The whole "flashback limited series" initiative is great. I really love everything that Peter David writes (and wish him good health). His Symbiote SM and the New FF are full of fun. And now we have JMD!

We've missed you so much. I really appreciate all your contributions to the character and your story of Ben is, without exaggeration, manna from heaven.

It's amazing how any character from John's pen becomes alive and multifaceted. Hope we get other Ben Reilly stories from him. Also, it would be interesting to see JMD's vision of other members of the Spider-family, like Miguel O'Hara or Mayday Parker

In the meantime, I'm fully enjoying the story of Peter and Mary Jane. The first two issues **SM:LH** are incredible. I still can't believe I'm holding a Spider-Man comic from Mr. DeMatteis in 2022. Thanks to everyone involved, from the editorial staff to the wonderful artists for making this happen.

With best wishes,
Artyom

Thanks to these fine folks, and all of you, for reading this lost adventure with Peter, Mary Jane, Aja Orisha, and Gregor. I hope it brought you back to a time you remember fondly or gave you some insight into a period of time you might not have been familiar with! Either way, we made this one for you—**THE FANS!**—who enjoy great stories with complex characters. And, of course, **SPIDER-MAN!** Until next time, Arachnophiles!

Stay Safe!
Danny Khazem
2.8.2023

If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide, or are worried about a friend or loved one, please reach out to a counselor or someone you trust or dial 988 for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

**CHECK OUT THE
FINAL VARIANT
FOR THIS SERIES!**



SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

